

CLAIMS: *The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.*

1.--6. (CANCELLED)

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A shopping cart, comprising:

- A. at least one merchandise container,
- B. a spine tall enough to carry the bottom of at least one of said merchandise containers at least at approximate dining-table height,
- C. means of quick-connect and quick-release retention of said containers for support by said spine on at least two levels, and
- D. means of parking said cart,

whereby shoppers can select and move merchandise, check it out, load into their cars and deliver into home kitchens with minimum work and maximum convenience and maneuverability.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The cart of claim 7 wherein said cart is selected from the group consisting of a folding dual-spine cart and a telescoping-spine wide-frame cart and a segmented-spine cart and a solid-spine cart and a single-wheel cart and a near-vertically-oriented cart and a bicycle-wheel cart and a luggage cart and a three-wheel cart and a lazy susan cart and a four-wheel pyramid cart and a deep-baskets cart and an elevator cart and a fixed-length-spine cart and a hand truck.

9. (NEW) The cart of claim 7 wherein said quick-connect and quick-release connectors are selected from the group consisting of sliding locks and pivot pins and belts and straps and interlocking spine segments and slots and projections and spring-loaded clips and clamps and permanent magnets and molded shapes and loops of leather and hooks and pins.

10. (NEW) The cart of claim 7 wherein said cart is selected from the group using frame materials of light-metal alloy tubing and polyethylene and polypropylene and vinyl and nylon and various impregnated and laminated fibrous materials such as graphite fibers.

11. (NEW) A carriage for accumulation, transporting and processing of merchandise and other burdens, comprising

- A. a chassis supported upon one or more wheels,
- B. a plurality of means for temporary fastening of burdens to said chassis,
- C. at least one of said fastening means sufficient to allow mounting of at least one of said burdens with its bottom at approximate dining-table height,
- D. a means for stabilizing carriage when parked unattended.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The carriage of claim 11 wherein said carriage is selected from the group

consisting of a folding dual-spine carriage and a telescoping-spine wide-frame carriage and a segmented-spine carriage and a solid-spine carriage and a single-wheel carriage and a near-vertically-oriented carriage and a bicycle-wheel carriage and a luggage carriage and a three-wheel carriage and a lazy susan carriage and a four-wheel pyramid carriage and a deep-baskets carriage and an elevator carriage and a fixed-length-spine carriage and a hand truck.

13. (NEW) The cart of claim 11 wherein said quick-connect and quick-release connectors are selected from the group consisting of sliding locks and pivot pins and belts and straps and interlocking spine segments and slots and projections and spring-loaded clips and clamps and permanent magnets and molded shapes and loops of leather and hooks and pins.

14. (NEW) The method of Claim 11 wherein said carriage is selected from the group using frame materials of light-metal alloy tubing and polyethylene and polypropylene and vinyl and nylon and various impregnated and laminated fibrous materials such as graphite fibers.

15. (NEW) A method of accumulating, transporting and processing burdens, comprising

- A. selecting a cart equipped with a plurality of quick-connect and quick-release connectors,
- B. using at least one of said connectors to mount at least one of said burdens with its bottom elevated approximately to tabletop height,
- C. selecting and mounting additional burdens as needed for said transporting and processing,
- D. presenting at said tabletop-height any of said burdens previously selected for most convenient handling,
- E. releasing cart's quick-detach mechanism and sliding said burden onto said tabletops or counter surfaces for processing,
- F. sliding reloaded burdens back into lock-up position against said spine,
- G. locking said burdens to said cart for transport to next destination,
- H. presenting a cart's load at automobile trunk when auto transport is required,
- I. sliding said load from cart ledges into said car trunk, with minimal lifting,
- J. reloading said cart with said burdens at final destination,
- K. presenting said containers at table and counter height for final disposition.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of collecting is taken with a cart chosen from the group consisting of a folding dual-spine cart and a telescoping-spine wide-frame cart and a segmented-spine cart and a solid-spine cart and a single-wheel cart and a near-vertically-oriented cart and a bicycle-wheel cart and a luggage cart and a three-wheel cart and a lazy susan cart and a four-wheel pyramid cart and a deep-baskets cart and an elevator cart and a fixed-length-spine cart and a hand truck

17.(NEW) The method of Claim 15 wherein said quick-connect and quick-release connectors are selected from the group consisting of sliding locks and pivot pins and belts and straps and interlocking spine segments and slots and projections and spring-loaded clips and clamps and permanent magnets and molded shapes and loops of leather and hooks and pins.

18. (NEW) The method of Claim 15 wherein said cart is selected from the group using frame materials of light-metal alloy tubing and polyethylene and polypropylene and vinyl and nylon and various impregnated and laminated fibrous materials such as graphite fibers.